

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-79. (Canceled)

80. (Currently Amended) A system for handling unemployment insurance comprising: a unified database containing unemployment insurance benefit data and unemployment insurance tax data, wherein the unemployment insurance benefit data comprises a benefit status of a claimant and the unemployment insurance tax data comprises an unemployment insurance tax payment status of an employer associated with the claimant; and a functional layer that is configured to evaluate a request for an unemployment insurance benefit by the claimant based on the benefit status of the claimant and the unemployment insurance tax payment status of the employer.~~The system of claim 1,~~

wherein the functional layer being configured to evaluate the request comprises the functional layer being configured to:

access the unemployment insurance tax payment status of the employer stored in the unified database,

determine, based on the accessed unemployment insurance tax payment status of the employer, whether the employer associated with the claimant is an employer currently employing the claimant, and

if the employer associated with the claimant is determined to be currently employing the claimant, deny the request as fraudulent.

81. (Currently Amended) A method for handling unemployment insurance, comprising: electronically providing a unified database containing unemployment insurance benefit data and unemployment insurance tax data, wherein the unemployment insurance benefit data

comprises a benefit status of a claimant and the unemployment insurance tax data comprises an unemployment insurance tax payment status of an employer associated with the claimant; and electronically evaluating, using at least one processor, a request for an unemployment insurance benefit by the claimant based on the benefit status of the claimant and the unemployment insurance tax payment status of the employer.~~The method of claim 32,~~

wherein electronically evaluating the request for an unemployment insurance benefit by the claimant comprises:

electronically accessing the unemployment insurance tax payment status of the employer stored in the unified database,

electronically determining, based on the accessed unemployment insurance tax payment status of the employer, whether the employer associated with the claimant is an employer currently employing the claimant, and

if the employer associated with the claimant is determined to be currently employing the claimant, electronically denying the request as fraudulent.

82. (Currently Amended) A system for handling unemployment insurance comprising: unemployment insurance benefit data comprising a benefit status of a claimant; unemployment insurance tax data comprising an unemployment insurance tax payment status of an employer associated with the claimant; and a unified desktop that is configured to process a function related to an unemployment insurance benefit for the claimant and a function related an unemployment insurance tax for the employer, based on the benefit status of the claimant and the unemployment insurance tax payment status of the employer.~~The system of claim 72,~~

wherein the unified desktop being configured to process a function related to an unemployment insurance benefit for the claimant comprises the unified desktop being configured to receive a request for an unemployment insurance benefit from the claimant and to communicate the request to a business layer configured to:

access the unemployment insurance tax payment status of the employer,

determine, based on the accessed unemployment insurance tax payment status of the employer, whether the employer associated with the claimant is an employer currently employing the claimant, and

if the employer associated with the claimant is determined to be currently employing the claimant, deny the request as fraudulent through the unified desktop.

83. (Canceled)

84. (Currently Amended) A method for handling unemployment insurance comprising:

electronically providing unemployment insurance benefit data comprising a benefit status of a claimant;

electronically providing unemployment insurance tax data comprising an unemployment insurance tax payment status of an employer associated with the claimant;

electronically processing, using at least one processor, a function related to an unemployment insurance benefit for the claimant and a function related an unemployment insurance tax for the employer, based on the benefit status of the claimant and the unemployment insurance tax payment status of the employer, through a unified desktop~~The method of claim 73,~~ wherein electronically processing the function related to an unemployment insurance benefit for the claimant comprises:

receiving a request for an unemployment insurance benefit from the claimant through the unified desktop,

electronically accessing the unemployment insurance tax payment status of the employer, electronically determining, based on the accessed unemployment insurance tax payment status of the employer, whether the employer associated with the claimant is an employer currently employing the claimant, and

if the employer associated with the claimant is determined to be currently employing the claimant, electronically denying the request as fraudulent.

85. (Canceled)

86. (Currently Amended) A system for handling unemployment insurance comprising:
a unified database containing unemployment insurance benefit data and unemployment insurance tax data; and
a functional layer that is configured to perform a function related to an unemployment insurance benefit for a claimant and a function related an unemployment insurance tax for an employer, based on the unemployment insurance benefit data and the unemployment insurance tax data~~The system of claim 74,~~

wherein the functional layer being configured to perform a function related to an unemployment insurance benefit for the claimant comprises the functional layer being configured to:

receive a request for an unemployment insurance benefit from the claimant,
access the unemployment insurance tax data,
determine, based on the accessed unemployment insurance tax data, whether the claimant is currently employed, and
if the claimant is determined to be currently employed, deny the request as fraudulent.

87. (Canceled)

88. (Currently Amended) A method for handling unemployment insurance comprising:
electronically providing a unified database containing unemployment insurance benefit data and unemployment insurance tax data; and
electronically performing, using at least one processor, a function related to an unemployment insurance benefit for a claimant and a function related an unemployment insurance tax for an employer, based on the unemployment insurance benefit data and the unemployment insurance tax data~~The method of claim 75,~~ wherein electronically performing a function related to an unemployment insurance benefit for the claimant comprises:
receiving a request for an unemployment insurance benefit from the claimant,
electronically accessing the unemployment insurance tax data,

electronically determining, based on the accessed unemployment insurance tax data,
whether the claimant is currently employed, and
if the claimant is determined to be currently employed, denying the request as fraudulent.

89. (Canceled)